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February 2019 Edition

February Meeting Minutes

Russ Ramirez, K0WFS, called the meeting to order at 1 PM. 17 members were present.

- The January 2019 Minutes were approved.
- Paul Bushouse, N0TYE, reports that there is \$2261.86 in the checking account. Paul reminded the group that March was the month we try to get everyone to renew their membership. The suggested donation is \$20.

Old Business:

The April 2019 Build-a-thon was discussed. Russ Ramirez brought in a sample case for the Field Strength Meter project. He now has all the parts for 24 kits and will predrill the case for the meter.

Russ also spoke about another kit he is working on. This one is a capacitance leakage meter which should come in around \$40. There was some discussion as to how best to use the device and what capacitors would generally be checked.

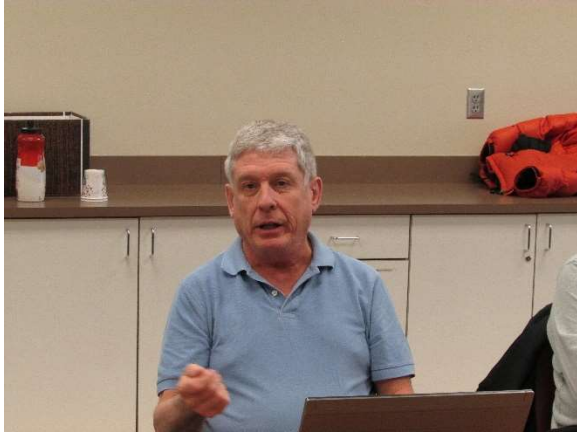


New Business:

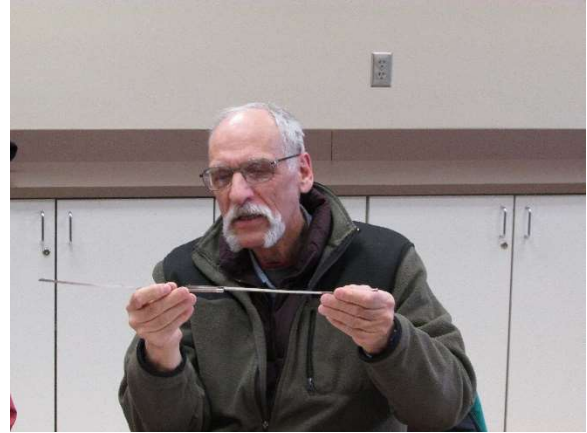
No new business.

Show and Tell:

Bob Liesenfeld, WB0POQ, brought in a completed AM pocket radio he recently built. He reports that the performance is similar to the pocket radios we were familiar with. Bob also brought in a SSB exciter he built. He described the problems he encountered with the adjustment. Some discussion ensued about the use of low end spectrum analyzers.

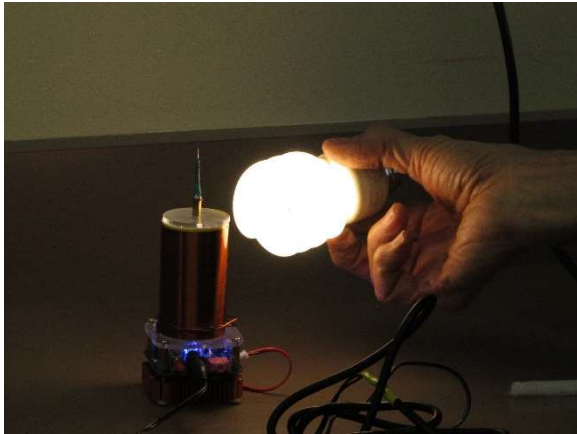
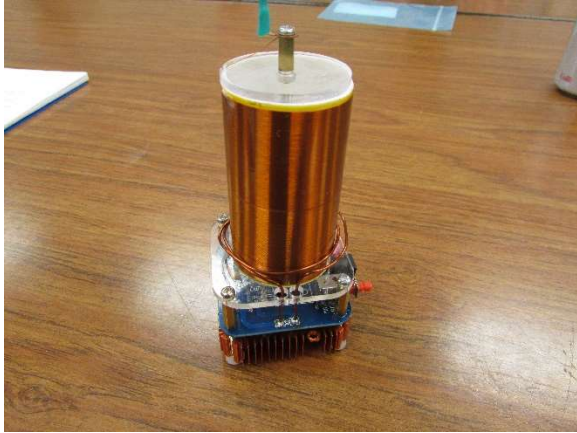


Ted Kinnear, KD0NPJ, showed us some stainless steel zip ties he recently acquired. He also brought some in for the group who might be able to use them.



John Krawczak, KJ0P, brought in a high voltage telsa coil he recently finished. He described the difficulty assembling the project as the instructions were not good. The unit runs at about 2.5 MHz and John described how it worked. The advertisement says that the generated plasma ring will play music but he was not able to get this to work. He was able to get it to make various tones with enough audio input. It will also nicely light up a florescent lamp which he demonstrated for us.



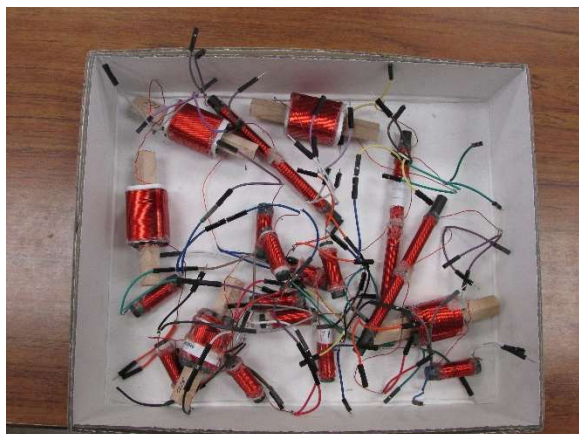


Steve McGrane, KM9G, brought in an antenna analyzer kit which hooks to an Arduino. He also brought in an XT clone kit along with a number of plug in cards. It uses a flash adapter for memory.

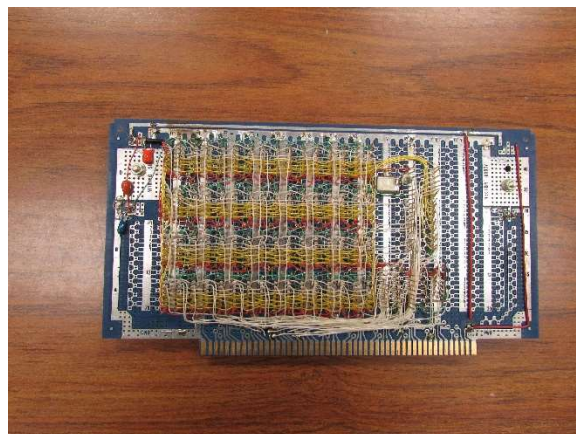


Mike Burk, KD0JXE, brought in ferrite bars in various configurations. He explained how he has been experimenting with these in an effort to build a smaller version of his broadcast antenna he showed us some time back.





Russ Ramirez, K0WFS, showed us some old computer chips from the 80's that he still had. Some were XT chips. He also brought in a memory board that he built using wire wrap during his college days.



February Presentation

Bob Liesenfeld, WB0POQ, gave us a presentation on *The Lowly Diode*. Bob discussed the chemical process of forming a diode junction and a bit of history involved. He then went on to describe the various diodes that have been developed. Some are still in production and some have been discontinued. Included were: Varactor, switching, Zener, pin, Step Recovery, Schottky/hot carrier, Shockley, SCR, DIAC, Triac, Tunnel/Esaki, Gunn, Impatt, Backward, photo, LED, Opto-isolator & laser.

Great presentation!! Thank you.



Submitted by: Steve Ulrich/NW0C

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